

## THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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## N. R. P. A.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

\* Hill has carried New York, but he will have up-Hill work getting in the White House.

\* "M. Quad" says the man who kicks may be disliked, but he becomes a public benefactor. Are you a kicker?

\* The St. Louis Conference had the advantage of the average political convention. The delegates stayed sober.

\* The Goldsboro Headlight says it is 2,000 bales of cotton that is stored in that town instead of 20,000 as published.

\* Bro. R. A. Handy, of Halifax county, says his Alliance and all the brethren in that county stand square on the Ocala platform.

\* The man who joins the Alliance for the purpose of getting a little cheap sugar or a little office of some kind, is generally the one who is found kicking.

\* Sheriff Allison, of Iredell, tells the Chronicle that the people of that county are nearly all for Cleveland for President. The Sheriff is "way off."

\* The Virginia Sun, the State organ of the Virginia Alliance, is a handsome, fearless and able. Success to it.

\* The next President of the United States probably has never been heard of. He has been attending to his own business. That is the kind of a man that will win.

\* Lester Hubbard, editor of the Farmers' Voice, Chicago, has been removed by the owners of the paper. They are plutocratic and he is not. Bro. Hubbard will not be out of a job long.

\* People who have the good of the country at heart will not advocate for the Presidency a man who has not been attending to his duties in Washington. This is what Senator Hill is guilty of.

\* Some say that it is all right for a Congressman or Senator to be away from Washington two-thirds of his time. Do you treat your hired man on the farm, in the factory or in the store that way?

\* The Pennsylvania Farmer has been adopted as State organ of the Alliance in that State. It is an old and reliable paper and has stood for reform all these years. We predict great good to the people who read it.

\* An ovation was given Grover Cleveland at Detroit last week. The papers report that an old lady tried to embrace Grover. There is nothing startling about that. Women have embraced worse men than Grover.

\* We again give notice that long notices of deaths cannot be published in this paper. If we should do it the entire paper would be filled. Please do not send long notices any more, nor resolutions of respect, nor poetry.

\* Bro. J. C. C. Humphries writes: "Our lodge is in good condition. The most faithful member we have now was the weakest until he began to read THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER." This is but a sample of hundreds of letters received at this office, and shows the importance of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER to the Order and the reason why every Allianced man should read it.

ceived at this office, and shows the importance of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER to the Order and the reason why every Allianced man should read it.

\* Much of our space is devoted to the proceedings of the St. Louis Conference and incidents connected therewith. Most of this was from a special correspondent who was wide awake, and may be relied upon as being correct.

\* The Boston Arena for March will have, among other good things, "The Alliance Wedge in Congress," by Hamlin Garland, and "The Telegraph and Telephone properly parts of the Post-office System," by Hon. Walter Clark, of North Carolina.

\* The papers in North Carolina are making a great noise over the "mid-winter convention" that nominated Hill for the Presidency in New York a few days ago. Hill will be colder after the National Convention than he is now, even if it is winter.

\* Messrs. D. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Mich., the well-known and popular seedsmen, have our thanks for a copy of their annual descriptive catalogue for 1892. This firm stands at the top among seedsmen, and this catalogue is a reflection of the enterprise of this firm.

\* The Goldsboro Headlight suggests that any one who thinks he must have some cotton to sell next fall, buy it now while it is so much cheaper than it can be raised, and thereby save money. A bright idea. The crop last year cost more than it brought by at least 3 cents a pound.

\* In the House one day recently, Mr. Cockrell said that the United States should not pay over 3 per cent. on its obligations. If the United States should not, then why should individuals pay such high rates of interest, and why don't Mr. Cockrell introduce some measure to lower interest?

\* THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is quoted as much, perhaps, as any paper in the country. Most of our exchanges are careful about giving credit. The Waterloo, N. Y., Observer, of the 17th of February, has four editorials in its editorial columns which appeared in this paper the week before. They appear in the Observer as original. As the Observer is apparently one of the ablest papers in the country, and has a large circulation, no doubt others will be ready to criticize. Please don't do so any more.

## PERPETUAL MOTION.

During the discussion of the United States Banking bill in Congress sometime in 1835 or 1836, John Randolph, of Roanoke, who was opposed to the passage of the bill which was intended to establish a United States bank, said that he had discovered perpetual motion, and it was very simply being that—

"Paper makes money,  
Money makes banks,  
Banks makes money,  
Money makes banks,  
Banks makes money,  
Money makes banks,  
Banks makes money,  
Money makes banks."

and so on forever and forever.

## THEY WILL NOT ADVOCATE THEIR PLATFORM.

The Wilmington Star, of February 24th, says: "The People's party convention which met at St. Louis, Monday, seems to have met for business, and the result will be the nomination of Presidential ticket, etc." The Star is not the only Democratic paper in North Carolina that has misrepresented the convention at St. Louis; but whether from pure ignorance or a determined intention to irritate by this misrepresentation the members of the Alliance organization, as has been done so often by a number of the partisan press of North Carolina, we are unable to say. We know this much, that just such editorials from the self-constituted bosses of the Democratic papers has had more to do towards disrupting that party than all else besides. It seems that to publish anything which misrepresents the Order of the Alliance is a cherished principle of the bosses and their allies; and the more that is said against the Order, the higher the standing of these editors among the plutocrats. It is well known that two years ago the Alliance and its friends was the Democratic party in North Carolina, yet there is not one Democratic paper in the State, so-called that has had the manhood to advocate the platform adopted by the State Convention of 1890. The so-called Democratic press does not represent the Democracy of North Carolina, but it does represent the minority element, whose principles are as far from Democratic principles as ever those of the Republican party was. Again we state for the benefit of these "partisan plutocratic sheets" that not one so-called Democratic paper has dared to advocate the platform adopted by the State Convention of 1890. The Alliance members and those who advocate the Democratic platform of 1890 are the true Democracy of North Carolina, and "don't you forget it."

## PLUTOCRACY ARRANGED.

In the St. Louis Conference on the 2d, Hon. Ignatius Donnelly, author of "Cesar's Column," arose and read the following powerful arraignment of the plutocrats of America:

This, the first great labor conference of the United States and the world, representing all the divisions of urban and rural organized industry assembled in the National Congress, invoking upon its action the blessing and protection of Almighty God, puts forth to and for the producers of the nation this declaration of union and independence. The conditions which surround us best justify our co-operation. We meet in the midst of a nation brought to a verge of moral, political and material ruin. Corruption dominates the ballot-box, legislature and Congress, and touches even the ermine of the bench. People are demoralized. Many of the States have been compelled to isolate voters at the polling places in order to prevent universal intimidation or bribery; newspapers are subsidized or muzzled; public opinion silenced; business prostrated; our homes covered with mortgages; labor impoverished and land concentrating in the hands of capitalists. Urban workmen are denied the right of organization for self protection, imported pauperized labor beats down their wages; a hiring standing army unobjectioned by our law is established to shoot them down, and they are rapidly degenerating to European conditions. Fruits of the toil of millions are boldly stolen to build up colossal fortunes, unprecedented in the history of the world, while their possessors despise the republic and endanger the liberty of the people through national power to create money is appropriated to enrich bond-holders; silver which has been accepted as coin since the dawn of history, has been demonetized to add to purchasing the power of gold by decreasing the value of all forms of property as well as human labor and a supply of currency is purposely abridged to fatten usurers, bankrupt enterprise and enslave industry. Vast conspiracy against mankind has been organized on two continents and is taking possession of the world, if not met and overthrown at once, it means solid convulsions, destruction of civilization or establishment of absolute despotism. In this crisis of human affairs, intelligent working people and producers of the United States have come together in the name of peace, order and society to defend liberty, prosperity and justice. We declare our union and independence and assert them through political organizations which represent our principles. We charge that the controlling influence dominating the old political parties have allowed existing dreadful conditions to develop without serious effort to restrain or prevent them; neither do they now intend to accomplish reform. They have agreed together to ignore in the coming campaign, every issue but one. They propose to drown the outcries of a plundered people with an uproar of sham battle over the tariff, so that the corporations, national banks, rings, trusts, "watered stock" demonetization of silver and oppression of usurers may all be lost sight of. They propose to sacrifice our homes and children upon the altar of mammon, to destroy hopes, multitudes in order to secure from great lords of plunder. We assert that political organizations representing political principles, herein stated, is necessary to redress grievances of which we complain. Assembled on the anniversary of the birth of the illustrious man who led the first great revolution on this continent against oppression was filled with sentiment which actuated that grand generation. We seek to restore the government of the public to the hands of the "plain people" with whom it originated; our doors are open to all points of the compass, we ask all honest men to join with and help us in order to restrain the extortions of aggregated capital; to drive money changers out of the temple; to form a perfect union; establish justice and insure domestic tranquility; provide for the common defence; promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity.

## THAT GAME WON'T WORK.

Efforts are being made to carry the next Democratic State Convention to Charlotte.

There is no place in North Carolina that offers more attractions, locally, than Charlotte. The city has good railroad facilities, good hotels, large halls. But owing to the fact that the location is in the extreme southern part of the State, a long distance from the center, it would not be fair. The object is to prevent a large delegation from the eastern part of the State. We insist that the political conventions of all the parties be held in the central part of the State, so all the counties can be well represented this year.

## THE GREAT CONFERENCE.

Thousands of Delegates--The Address of Welcome--Chairman Terrell's Address--Col. Polk Elected Chairman--Hon. Ben Terrell and Miss Willard, Vice-Presidents--Hayes, Secretary.

[Special to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.]  
St. Louis, Feb. 22, 1892.

At two o'clock this afternoon was ushered into existence a convention from the deliberations of which many thousands of people believe will date the beginning of the most notable political revolution the world has ever known. The men who comprise the conference are educated in their principles, determined in purpose, and firm in their belief of what is right and they will proclaim with no uncertain sound that they intend to enjoy a few of the benefits they have hitherto conferred on others.

Delegates and visitors began arriving last Thursday and have continued to pour in till several thousand are in the city. Nearly every State and Territory in the United States is represented.

The conference was opened in Exposition Music Hall with about 2,500 delegates and visitors in attendance. The delegates from each State were seated together, regardless of organization. On the stage were many of the most prominent men and women in the Third party movement, also several leading representatives of the Prohibition party which hopes to get a temperance plank in the People's party platform.

Hon. Ben Terrell, of Texas, called the meeting to order, after which the Rev. Bashor led in prayer.

Miss Alice Mitchell, of Kansas City, sang "The Star Spangled Banner," the convention joining in the chorus, and responded to a hearty encore with "The Old Folks at Home."

Mr. C. P. Walbridge, President of the St. Louis City Council, tendered a welcome to the visiting delegates. His words were well chosen and hospitable in spirit and his address was received with marked appreciation.

## MR. WALBRIDGE'S ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

If my memory serves me correctly I saw some weeks ago a notice in the daily papers of the obsequies of the Farmers' Alliance and People's party. Judging from the display before me it must have been a mistake. Newspapers generally tell the truth, but sometimes typographical errors slip in. At any rate if I were a candid to for office I think I should give the elements represented here to day credit for having a little vitality left.

The philosopher tells us that life is a struggle for the survival of the fittest. Most of us will readily admit the truth of this proposition, especially the first half of it. I suspect there are few men in this hall who have not at some time in their lives had to struggle for existence. But how about the survival of the fittest? What is the fittest to survive? At one time the fittest was supposed to be he who was strongest and best able to destroy his fellows. When Bruce and Wallace were breaking the heads of Englishmen with their huge battle axes, muscle was considered the only fit thing to survive. When the farmer cradled his grain and raked and bound it by hand and threshed it with a flail, when canals were dug and railroads graded by human hands alone, when the fleetest messenger from St. Louis to San Francisco was the pony express, it was very important that muscle should survive.

But times changed. The battle ax was succeeded by the needle gun. The cradle and flail were followed by the reaper, the self-binder, the header and thresher. Steam shovels and graders and electric motors took the place of laborers in the construction of canals and railroads. The telegraph and telephone succeeded the pony express. Labor saving schemes and devices of tremendous import were evolved from the brain of man. Then there sprang up a class who said muscle is of little importance, brains alone are fit to survive. The contest which followed speedily developed the theory which is destined to govern the world, viz: He is best fitted to survive, who can best bring brain and muscle into harmonious co-operation. Then the world went along the industrial line "no trust can control our intelligence. Let us organize," and they did organize.

In the industrial pursuits of the United States alone 4,000,000 men struck hands in the name of co-operative brain and muscle.

You have frequently heard the remark, "Competition is the life of trade." If competition be the life of trade, why don't the F. M. B. A. offer a bonus to every man who will open a new firm? If competition be so desirable why don't the K. of L. send missionaries into Europe to induce men to come over here and compete with them in their various vocations?

No, my friends, the theory is false. The legitimate result of unrestricted competition is to crush out the weak and build up the strong. It is unrestricted competition that has built up those vast fortunes whose owners have incomes almost equal to the revenue of an empire. Not competition, but competitive co-operation is the true life of business and the best guide for all human action. Is not this the object of your convention? If I understand it, you are here to bring about the competitive co-operation of the industrial orders of the nation. The farmer and wage-worker, the artisan and laborer, the producer and consumer. If this convention shall develop the genius to bring these elements into a harmonious and aggressive union based upon right principles there will go out from this hall a force which nothing on earth can resist.

In the name of the city of St. Louis I bid you a cordial welcome. I welcome you not as farmer, as mechanic, as laborer, but as Americans loyal and true whose deliberations will be enforced by patriotic desire to produce the greatest good to the greatest number.

Mr. Terrell then read the following address to the convention, requesting that it be referred to the committee on demands:

## CHAIRMAN TERRELL'S ADDRESS.

You are here by the authority of the several industrial organizations which you have the honor to represent and for the purpose of conferring together without prejudice of any kind, to the end that you may agree upon such a platform of principles for the government of our loved and common country as will secure equal justice to all and special privileges to none. Believing as we do in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, and considering that the interests you represent are those of the toilers of our land, it is hoped and believed that your deliberations will be marked by that correctness, fairness and manliness which should characterize the discussion of such interests. It is possible that the future of our country is in the hands of this convention to-day. If you act wisely, I believe a revolution by the ballot attainable and our country saved from the fate of all nations whose financial policy concentrates in the hands of the few its wealth, while the many are made paupers. The responsibility resting on you is not less than that of the grand old heroes and fathers who signed the Declaration of Independence in 1776, and your country is expecting of you the same fearless devotion to justice and right.

I beg of you that you will remember that the eyes of the toiling masses are upon you to-day and they are expecting a second Declaration of Independence. I pray God you may be able to rise above all national prejudices, lay aside self, throw off every weight and do your duty like men worthy of the trust confided to you by those whose cause is just.

In view of the depressed condition of labor and the absolute necessity for unity of action I hope the convention will be conservative and just in its demands. Let us not attempt too much. There is much truth in the saying that you can unite many on a few things, but few on many. I would therefore advise that you confine your demands to land, transportation, taxation and money, believing that when conditions are so changed that men can enjoy the fruit of their labor, they will find more time and inclination to attend to those moral reforms so much needed and so earnestly desired by all who love humanity. The question of who shall own our lands, is to ask who shall own our people, so if we would be free, we must continue to own our lands. There is no escape from this truism.

Mr. Terrell made a few remarks to the effect that the government should control the railroads of the country and should equalize taxation, and then asked what was the pleasure of the convention. The speech was greeted with tremendous applause.

When Col. Polk stepped forward to make the first response to the address of welcome, he was greeted by three cheering cheers. He only spoke a short time, thanking the city of St. Louis for its friendly greeting and kind treatment, and recalled the fact that at a former meeting in this city affiliation had been affected between the Farmers' Alliance and the Knights of Labor. When the speaker declared, "We intend to have relief if we have to wipe both old parties out of existence," the house went wild with enthusiasm.

Terrence V. Powderly, Grand Master Workman K. of L., delivered a short address. He said that the Knights of Labor will stand by the farmers, and will follow wherever their principles lead them. He thought that their votes should be cast where they will do the most good.

Hon. Ignatius Donnelly closed the afternoon's exercise in a masterly and enthusiastic speech. He wanted the conference to make a platform, to declare for the People's party, and to keep in the middle of the road, and he predicted a wedding in the near future of the Democrats and Republicans. "The wedding will take place," said the speaker, "at the altar of plutocracy; Grover Cleveland and Ben Harrison will act as bridesmaids, the devil will give away the bride, and Jay Gould will pronounce the benediction."

Hon. Marion Cannon, President of the California State Alliance, was chosen temporary chairman. The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to the appointment of committees.

## PEOPLE'S PARTY COMMITTEE.

The People's Party National Committee held a meeting this morning, but no business was transacted. Mr. Wm. Fortune, of Indianapolis, made a short address suggesting his city as being a desirable location for holding the nominating convention.

## EVENING MEETING.

This evening a well-attended and enthusiastic meeting was held in Music Hall. Addresses were delivered by Bro. Beck, of Nebraska; J. H. Davis, Sulphur Springs, Texas; Congressman Jerry Simpson, of Kansas; E. M. Boynton, of Massachusetts, and Bro. King, of Kansas City, Kansas.

To-morrow will be a big day in the conference. It is expected that the National Union Company will appear with grievances, and the Prohibitionists, it is said, will endeavor to secure a prohibition, or at least a temperance plank in the platform. It is generally believed that there will be no attention paid to the petition of the Prohibitionists, though possibly a nationalistic liquor plank may be included in the platform.

The conference promises to be harmonious, profitable, and memorable in history.

St. Louis, Feb. 23.  
Col. L. L. Polk, President of the N. F. A. and I. U., was chosen this morning as permanent Chairman of the conference. His election was unanimous. Hon. Ben Terrell was nominated, but the vote was solid for Col. Polk.

He made a short but fitting speech and every sentence brought forth cheers. The conference then proceeded to business.

Miss Francis E. Willard and Hon. Ben Terrell were elected Vice-Presidents, and John W. Hayes, National Secretary K. of L., was chosen Secretary.

## THE PLATFORM.

The following is the platform presented by the committee and adopted by the conference:

We do ordain and establish the following platform of principles:

1. We declare the union forces of the United States this day accomplished permanent and perpetual. May every spirit enter into all the hearts for the salvation of the Republic and the lifting of mankind.

2. Wealth belongs to him who created it. Every dollar taken from industry without an equivalent is robbery. "If any will not work neither shall he eat." The interests of rural and urban labor are the same, and the enemies are identical.

3. We demand a national currency, safe, sound and flexible, issued by the general government, only a full legal tender for all debts, public and private, and without the use of banking corporations, just and equitable means of circulation, at a tax not to exceed two per cent., as set forth in the Sub-Treasury plan of the Farmers' Alliance, some better system; also by payment in discharge of its obligation for public improvements.

4. We demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

5. We demand that the amount of circulation medium to be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

6. We demand the graduated income tax.

7. We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand all National and State revenues shall be limited to necessary expenses and the Government economically and honestly administered.

8. We demand that postal saving banks be established by the Government for the safe deposit of the earnings of the people, and to facilitate exchange.

9. Your sub-committee upon the plank beg to submit to your approval the following: That the land, including all natural resources of wealth, is the heritage of all the people, and should be monopolized for speculative purposes, and the alien ownership of land should be prohibited. That all land now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of their actual needs, and all lands now owned by aliens should be reclaimed by the Government and held for actual settlement only.

10. Transportation being a means of exchange and a public necessity, the Government should own and operate the roads in the interest of the people.

11. The telegraph and telephone, like the postal system, being a necessity for the transmission of news, should be owned and operated by the Government in the interest of the people.

12. We demand that the Government issue legal tender notes, and pay Union soldiers the difference between the price of depreciated money in which he was paid, and gold.

Resolved, That we hail this Conference as the consummation of a perfect union of hearts and hands of all sections of our common country. The men who wore the gray and men who wore the blue met here to extinguish the last smouldering embers of the civil war in the tears of joy of a united happy people; and we agree to carry the stars and the stripes forward forever to the highest point of national greatness.

## HAVE YOU HEARD OF IT?

In December we sent to each State Secretary a proposition to be read his Alliance, offering to send THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER one year in clubs as follows: Five subscribers and less than 10, in a club, at 95 cents each; 10 and under 15, at 85 cents each; 15 and under 20, 80 cents each; 20 and under 25, 75 cents each; 25 and over at 70 cents each. Remember, if any one owes anything on back subscription, he is not entitled to membership in one these clubs until his arrears are paid up. Brother, help work up club of 25 in your Alliance. Let your brother see all his neighbors and their names and hand them in secretary at next meeting.

## LURED ASTRAY.

From all reports, women are sent as representatives to influence Congressmen and Senators for this that measure. Brave men who ever ready to face a foe on the spot or on the battlefield, fall ready victims to the smiles and tears of pretentious women. A Washington correspondent says:

"In the deep recesses of some of the windows in the corridors it is not an unusual occurrence to see a new member of Congress conversing with a piquant and aggressive young woman loudly dressed. Although the numerous passers by notice them not, nor caught in their conduct whereof a grumble or comment, the experienced newspaper men recognize the presence of a sordid dove, a sinful siren, who luring from the path of rectitude representative of the people, the band of a trusting wife, a father of devoted children. But this is a cold cruel work; and in the national cap of the republic everyone soon learns to attend to his own business, and new word of warning is uttered, nor a moment made, when a soul is sinking in this manner; when the wings of ambition are being clipped, and when the nations of ambition are being decimated into insensibility, infamy and possibly disgrace."